

**FCC ISSUES / PROGRAMS REPORT**

**For 3rd Quarter 2013**

**F.C.C. 73.3256 (e) (11)**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**KTRK-TV (ABC-13)  
HOUSTON, TX**

**September 30, 2013**

**ABC-13 - LOCAL PROGRAMS**  
**3rd Quarter 2013****ABC-13 PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS**

ABC-13 broadcasts four locally-produced programs listed below under its public affairs banner *ABC-13 Community Close Up*. The half-hour magazine format programs address a wide range of subjects of interest to the community, from hard issues and social service topics to human interest stories and culture and entertainment. The programs are broadcast on an alternating schedule on ABC-13's Channel 13.1 on Sunday mornings at 11:00 and 11:30 a.m. The programs are re-aired on the station's Channel 13.2.

***City View***

Issues and topics concerning the community at-large.

Regular air date - first Sunday of the month at 11:00am. Among the issues discussed this quarter include: a discussion on the takeover by the Houston Independent School of the troubled North Forest School District which has been plagued for years by mismanagement and money woes; a discussion on the State's Prison Entrepreneurship Program, which aims to turn Texas inmates into the next crop of entrepreneurs; a talk on the future of Houston's historic Astrodome; and a NOAA scientist talks about a historic find off the coast of Galveston of a shipwreck nearly 200 years old.

***Crossroads***

Issues and topics concerning the African American community.

Regular air date - second, third and fourth Sunday of the month, 11:00am. Among the issues discussed include: an examination of race in America, following the not guilty verdict in the George Zimmerman case who was on trial for the murder of 17-year old Trayvon Martin after he shot and killed Martin following a confrontation at a Florida apartment complex; a look at efforts to encourage more African American students to pursue careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs; how Texas Governor Rick Perry's decision not to seek re-election could impact the African American community; a discussion on the black filmmaking community in Houston, including the thriving Nigerian film industry making films for audiences overseas; a profile and talk with Texas Southern University's legendary debate team coach, Dr. Thomas Freeman; and a look back at the historic 1963 March on Washington from a man who was there and a woman who made the trek 50 years later.

***Visions***

Issues and topics concerning the Asian/Pacific-American community.

Regular air date - first Sunday of the month, 11:30am. Among the issues discussed this quarter include: a look at the Greater Houston Partnership's trade mission to China to stimulate international investment and trade; a look at a MD Anderson Cancer Center project to determine the health and cancer needs of the South Asian community; an examination of the controversy involving a San Francisco television station that aired fake and racially offensive names of the pilots of an Asiana Airlines flight that crash landed at San Francisco Airport; a look back at the one year anniversary of the tragic shooting at a Sikh Temple in Wisconsin that left 6 people dead after they were murdered by a white supremacist— a Sikh Coalition advocate was studio guest; a report on a Fort Bend County plan to create so-called "Minority

Opportunity Districts,” including one for an Asian Opportunity District; and an interview with nationally acclaimed Chef Justin Yu of Houston’s Oxheart Restaurant.

### ***Viva Houston***

Issues and topics concerning the Latino community.

Regular air date - second, third and fourth Sunday of the month, 11:30am. Among the issues discussed this quarter include: efforts to encourage more Hispanics to register to vote as part of National Voter Registration Day; a report on LACES, Inc, an organization that works to reunite Hispanic children with their families in Latin America after the children were left behind in the United States because of the deportation and incarceration of their parents; a preview of the annual Festival Chicano and Puerto Rican and Cuban festivals; a discussion of the push to build a national American Latino Museum in Washington, DC; an examination of the education achievement gap between Hispanics and white students; and a feature on flamenco dancing and look at an exhibit of works by the legendary folk artist Jose Guadalupe Posada at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston.

## **ABC-13 NEWS PROGRAMS**

### **13 Eyewitness News**

The following *Eyewitness News* programs aired live on Channel 13.1 in the third quarter. Selected news programs aired live simultaneously or were re-broadcasted on Channel 13.2.

*Eyewitness News at 4:30 AM* (Weekdays 4:30 – 5:00am)

*Eyewitness News at 5:00 AM* (Weekdays 5:00 – 5:30am)

*Eyewitness News at 5:30 AM* (Weekdays 5:30 – 6:00am)

*Eyewitness News at 6:00 AM* (Weekdays 6:00 – 7:00am)

Tom Koch, Sharron Melton, Don Nelson and meteorologist Casey Curry anchor these two half-hour and one-hour morning newscasts. The programs cover the latest overnight news, weather, sports and traffic reports.

*Eyewitness News at 11:00 AM* (Weekdays 11:00 Am -12:00pm)

Melanie Lawson, Ilona Carson, Art Rascon and meteorologist Travis Herzog anchor this midday newscast. The program covers the latest news and weather, as well as entertainment news by Don Nelson.

*Eyewitness News at 4:00 PM* (Weekdays 4:00 – 5:00pm)

Eric Barajas, Ilona Carson and meteorologist Travis Herzog anchor this one-hour newscast. The program includes the latest news and weather, money-saving tips from Patricia Lopez and health reports by Christi Myers.

*Eyewitness News Live at Five* (Weekdays 5:00 - 5:30pm)

Art Rascon, Melanie Lawson and chief meteorologist Tim Heller anchor this half-hour evening newscast covering the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 6 PM* (Weekdays 6:00-7:00pm)

Gina Gaston, Dave Ward, Ilona Carson, Erik Barajas, chief meteorologist Tim Heller and sports director Greg Bailey anchor these two half-hour newscasts covering the latest news, sports and weather.

*Eyewitness News at 10 PM* (Weekdays 10:00 - 10:30pm)

Dave Ward, Gina Gaston, chief meteorologist Tim Heller and sports director Greg Bailey anchor this late evening half-hour newscast, covering the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 5:30 AM* (Saturdays 5:30 – 6:00am)

*Eyewitness News at 6:00 AM* (Saturdays 6:00 – 7:00am)

Elissa Rivas, Samica Knight and meteorologist David Tillman anchor these newscasts reporting the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 6:00 PM* (Saturdays 6:00 – 6:30pm)

*Eyewitness News at 10 PM* (Saturdays 10:00 – 10:30pm)

Tom Abrahams, Adela Uchida, meteorologist David Tillman and sportscaster Bob Slovak anchor these news programs covering the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 6 AM* (Sundays 6:00 – 7:00am)

*Eyewitness News at 8 AM* (Sundays 8:00 – 10:00am)

Elissa Rivas, Samica Knight and meteorologist David Tillman anchor these Saturday morning newscasts reporting the latest news, weather and sports.

*Eyewitness News at 5:30 PM* (Sundays 5:30 – 6:00pm)

*Eyewitness News at 10 PM* (Sundays 10:00 – 10:30pm)

Tom Abrahams, Adela Uchida, meteorologist David Tillman and sportscaster Bob Slovak anchor these Sunday evening news programs covering the latest news, weather and sports.

## LOCALLY PRODUCED PROGRAMS

### **Channel 13.1 Programming**

#### **ABC-13 Presents**

*ABC-13 Presents* productions are locally produced specials covering a full range of subjects, including medical topics, the environment, consumer reports, health, beauty, sports, the arts and events that impact Houstonians. *ABC-13 Presents* programs regularly air on Channel 13.1 at 10:35pm.

#### **Sports Programs**

The 13 Eyewitness News sports anchor team presents several programs throughout the year highlighting the latest sports news. We aired a number of Houston Texans specials leading up to the 2013 season, including “Picture Perfect” on 7/21/13; “Texans Pre-Game Show” on 8/17/13; “The Heart of the Texans” on 9/1/13 and “Countdown to Kickoff” on 9/9/13.

### **Channel 13.2 Programming**

ABC-13’s Channel 13.2 features a variety of locally produced programs, including *13Eyewitness News*, *ABC-13 Presents*, *ABC-13 Community Close Up* and *Live Well HD Network*. Channel 13.2 also features children’s programs and local high school football games.

#### **Live Well HD Network**

Launched by the ABC-owned television stations, Live Well HD Network programs help viewers improve their daily lives. The network airs on Channel 13.2. The network consists of numerous half-hour programs covering a variety of lifestyle topics, including:

Motion – outdoor activities

Say Ahh – health and medicine

Advice for Life – personal growth

Mirror, Mirror – beauty and fashion (locally produced by KTRK)

Deals – money-saving tips (locally produced by KTRK)

Let’s Dish – health cooking

Home with Lisa Quinn – interior design

### **Channel 13.3 Programming**

The station’s HDTV Channel 13.3 features weather coverage 24 hours a day.

**ABC TELEVISION NETWORK NES**

ABC-13 broadcasts all ABC Television Network news programs and special reports. The network's report entitled, "ABC-TV Network Third Quarter 2013 Program Information," is filed separately. A copy of the report is filed in ABC-13's Public Inspection File.

**ABC-13 - CORE ISSUES**  
**3rd Quarter 2013****CORE ISSUES**

ABC-13 gave significant coverage to the following community issues and concerns arising in the third quarter of 2013:

1. Spring High School Stabbing
2. HISD Takes Over North Forest ISD
3. Houston Texans Season Begins
4. Astrodome Future
5. Mayor's Race

The station's coverage of these core issues is detailed in the next section of this report.

<b>ABC-13 - CORE ISSUES COVERAGE</b> <b>3rd Quarter 2013</b>
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### SPRING HIGH SCHOOL STABBING

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: September 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23. Total coverage: 3 Hours 22 Minutes**

*13 Eyewitness News* reported on a fatal stabbing on the campus of Spring High School. 17-year old Joshua Broussard died during a confrontation with 17-year old Luis Alonzo Alfaro. Three other students were hospitalized with stab wounds. They survived. In addition to concern about violence in the school, many parents were not happy about the lack of information school officials gave them immediately after the incident. There was nearly a three-hour lag between the stabbing and official word from the district. Alfaro was booked into the Harris County jail on a \$50,000 bond. Harris County authorities said the confrontation escalated into a fight and weapons were drawn leading to the stabbing. Authorities say the incident may have been gang related. Meanwhile, more than 200 people took part in a prayer vigil at a Spring church to pray for peace.

### HOUSTON ISD TAKES OVER NORTH FOREST ISD

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: July 9, 17, 24, 25, 26, 27. August 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31. September 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. Total Coverage: 4 Hours 3 Minutes**

*13 Eyewitness News* followed the Houston School District's forced annexation of the North Forest Independent School District. HISD welcomed about 7,000 former North Forest students. Earlier this year, the Texas Education Agency ruled the district academically unacceptable. The district lost its final court battle in June, making the district's state-ordered merger into HISD a reality. U.S. District Judge David Hittner rejected claims by North Forest that the school system's takeover by the Houston Independent School District would violate the rights of minority voters. HISD superintendent Dr. Terry Grier greeted the new students and said the district has invested \$17 million into the schools and is working to close a serious achievement gap. HISD did consolidate and close some of the existing North Forest buildings, but many facilities are getting new landscaping and fencing, updated libraries with new books and new computers. Reaction from students and parents has been positive so far.

### HOUSTON TEXANS SEASON BEGINS

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: July 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. August 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31. September 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. Total Coverage: 6 Hours 11 Minutes**

*13 Eyewitness News* reported extensively on the Houston Texans highly anticipated 2013 season which serves as a rallying point for the community. After a brief and disappointing playoff run last season, hopes are high that the team will make a serious run at a Super Bowl berth this year. As the team's official television home, ABC 13 broadcast Texans preseason games, along with "Inside the Game"

segments following our Sunday 10pm newscast. Our coverage included profiles of players like J.J. Watt, Arian Foster and DeAndre Hopkins. We also spotlighted tailgating activities, fan profiles and Texans fashion trends.

### **ASTRODOME FUTURE**

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: July 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18. August 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28. June 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26. Total Coverage: 2 Hours 51 Minutes**

*13 Eyewitness News* closely followed the ongoing debate over the fate of the Harris County Domed Stadium. Harris County Commissioners' Court voted to place an item on the November ballot to raise taxes for the purpose of converting the old Astrodome into a multi-purpose convention facility called "The New Dome Experience." The iconic building has fallen into disrepair since it was shuttered five years ago. Harris County Judge Ed Emmitt says voters will be able to decide the landmark's fate. The \$217 million bond issue appears to have the support of most voters. If it passes, people with homes worth \$200,000 can expect to pay about \$8 more per year in taxes. Meanwhile, Harris County Sports and Convention Corporation board members claim the Astrodome as an event and exhibition center could generate an annual profit of about \$2 million. The proposal calls for creating 350,000 square feet of exhibition space by removing all interior seats and raising the floor to street level. Other changes would include creating 400,000 square feet of plaza and green space outside of the structure, all in hopes of turning the Astrodome into a show piece of Reliant Park and a positive improvement for the community.

### **HOUSTON MAYORAL RACE**

***Eyewitness News.* Air Dates: August 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 31. September 13, 14, 15, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27. Total Coverage: 1 Hours 59 Minutes.**

*13 Eyewitness News* is following the Houston Mayoral election featuring 8 candidates trying to oust incumbent Mayor Annise Parker. Parker's primary adversary is former Houston City Attorney Ben Hall. He fired the opening salvo in the contest with a television ad criticizing Parker's tenure as mayor. Parker responded by accusing Hall of not being a Houston resident. Hall then accused Mayor Parker of graft and corruption. The Parker campaign called those allegations absurd. A poll released in September showed Parker with a wide lead in the race. The findings suggest Hall faces an uphill battle to defeat a two-term incumbent. Other candidates in the Houston Mayoral race are: Charyl Drab, Eric Dick, Don Cook, Keryl Burgess Douglas, Michael Fitzsimmons, Victoria Lane and Derek Jenkins. Election Day is November 5 when the community decides who will lead them next term.

**ABC-13 - PUBLIC SERVICE**  
**3rd Quarter 2013**

## **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PSA Submissions**

The station airs selected PSAs submitted by local, regional and national nonprofit entities. Broadcast on a regular PSA rotation, the spots cover a wide range of subjects and interests -- from health, education and issues addressing children's concerns to drug abuse prevention, public safety and the environment.

### ***Community Spotlight PSAs***

ABC-13 regularly produces and broadcasts 15 and 30-second public service announcements under its *Community Spotlight* banner. The announcements promote the public service programs and activities of local nonprofit organizations, community groups and government entities. The spots are broadcast on regular PSA rotation schedules and in special time slots on weekdays between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m.

In the third quarter, the station produced and broadcasted PSAs promoting Hispanic Heritage Month; Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center's Month to Match Bone Marrow Drive; Race for the Cure and National Voter Registration Day. In the third quarter, the station ran a total of 4670 PSAs on both our 13.1 and 13.2 channels.

## **ABC-13 PUBLIC SERVICE CAMPAIGNS**

### **YMCA's Operation Backpack**

ABC-13 partners with the YMCA in a grassroots campaign to collect backpacks and school supplies for children in need across the greater Houston area. The campaign includes customized on-air sponsored announcements, online support and a live drive and stuffing event on August 9 from 6am – 6pm. It is sponsored by the YMCA, KSBJ-FM radio, Shoe Carnival, HEB, Kidde, Home Depot and Vision Works.

### **Culinary Masters**

ABC-13's "Culinary Masters" is a campaign designed to highlight a prominent chef in the Houston area with proceeds benefitting the Houston Food Bank. It is sponsored by Cadillac.

### **Operation 13 Save a Life**

"Operation 13 Save a Life" is a public safety campaign designed to increase awareness and educate consumers about the dangers of fire and carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. ABC 13 is running a series of vignettes, featuring Houston Fire Chief Terry Garrison, educating viewers on the importance of fire safety and avoiding CO. Kidde, a manufacturer of fire detection equipment, donated 3,500 ten-year smoke detectors to the city of Houston for distribution to families in need.

**Freedom Over Texas**

ABC 13 broadcasts Houston's official 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration with fireworks and a local civic celebration on July 4<sup>th</sup> at Eleanor Tinsley Park in downtown Houston. The event benefits Central Houston Civic Improvements. ABC 13 promoted the event with PSAs pushing people to the event.

**Hurricane Preparedness & Tracking Maps**

The station published its annual ABC 13 Hurricane Tracking Map & Guide, designed to promote hurricane preparedness. The bilingual guide features a hurricane tracking map, information about hurricane threats, survival and evacuations and useful public safety websites and phone numbers. The free printed materials are available to the public at Kroger stores. Copies of the guide are also distributed to community groups, schools, nursing homes and businesses on request. The corporate partner for the guide is Kroger.

**WEBSITE RESOURCES**

The station's website *abc13.com* features information, video streaming and links corresponding to its news reports, programs, PSAs and public service campaigns. These informational resources cover a wide range of subjects, from news issues, current events and weather topics to health and consumer concerns. The website also features video streaming of *ABC-13 Community Close Up* public affairs programs. It also provides Doppler radar weather updates and traffic information. In addition, abc13.com provides an online calendar platform for community event postings. In the third quarter, the website featured content coinciding with some of ABC-13's public service campaigns: ABC 13's Month to Match Bone Marrow Drive, YMCA's Operation Backpack, and Freedom Over Texas.